him till they can make terms with the



Author of the Scarlet Coat, The Meddling Hussy ber

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PART I. Now, to explain how I become involved with the great Arnold treason, I must go back to France at the time when I was dis-

On my twenty-third birthday I was dis missed from the regiment Gatenois, then about to depart for the American service on the Chevalier de Ternay's fleet; for I had than in all its history: I had been branded a cheat, and had fought a foolish duel which had come to the queen's notice; and now I could see her majesty's flashing eyes as she forbade me the court before all; I had debts of is nor to meet-money forrowed from friends who needed; with, indeed, not even the gold for my lodgings, much has to go to the one house in Auvergne which was desolate with many mortgages. Everywhere I turned was a money-lender. No one was left save De Vitry, whom I hated.

sun lay low over the treetops as I walked along the path of the fountains, eager to be away, I knew not where. I had no one to blame. Yet I had intentions, iconrable enough at the start. Who

Waiking on, I passed a homely-faced old man, who looked at me out of shrewd, inquisitive eyes-Dr. Franking the minis of the American Congress. He, too, cast his eyes down, though only lately, as a last resort, I had asked him a chance to enlist in the cause over the sea-a fool's errand; he was besieged by sorry adventurers, while many others of honest name and fame he could not emourage at all Now he, too, as I say passed without recognition; I smalled billierly to myself throt was closed; no chance re-

So I wandered on, laugging despair. A Warmish day of chirping birds, it was but added mockery. I hated the world Its very brightness was maddening to all my chagrin that would have the sky dark, with the rain pattering, and a cold despaired wind. And then, everything being intolerable. I threw me down in green bank and lay there checrless til sheer exhaustion took my sense.

A little sleep will carry from despai-smetimes, to hope! from your present life, with all its desptisfactions to the past which has slipped so far from you or to the char p of the future; and after all I was not entirely worn down.
Of baybood I thought as I lay with

face to the sky, and against the blue som sky seeking bird layered. I lay there a persectuits as if I were on my own ter race in Auvergne and Le Bel's, the black hound's, muzzle in new bound; and awif I were reflecting of what Father Sylvester fur tutor, declared of the saints, of the plicity that counts for true in I forgot all that had been since, and I ever thought I could hear the awish of my mother's skirt and should see her dear face bending over me. Ah, me! that face, long since was under the tomb in the parish church, where the Sieurs de la Reune, honorable and yet not any very distinguished gentlemen, have slept, generation after generation. Yet, surely, I heard her

Raising myself, I saw beyond the glada stretch of bridle path, and the woman's voice, after all, was not debision, for she was there in the glade.

A black groom stood at the heads of two borses. I rubben my eyes. Then spring ing to my feet I shook illusions and delu-

She heard me, for she turned about, showing a young lady who could have been no more than eighteen; neither tall nor yet short; a thin, dark face, framed with black hair, and now expressed by startled blue eyes

"I beg your pardon, mademoissiles" I said, howing as nest I might. I could do little less. "I did not intend to disturb

But she stored with questioning eyes, and Tremembere 1 where I had seen her and noted isly, when all the court had been tittering at my disgram-

"You were there," I asked, brusquely, twirling my hat.

She looked at me again and strangely answered:

"I was there, munsiour" Ab, I cannot hide it," I cried. "I am

the Sigar de la Renne." She stood there strangely, this English girl Suddenly her face brightened, and

dvanced, extending her hand. "Mousieur de la Renne," she said in crieff, of Virginia, daughter of one of the American commissioners."

"Yes, madamoiselle," I said stapidly.

"Their majestles have graciously restick she held and lowered her eyes, and

hen, thue, challenging, they were turns by the dogs; I hate to see any ma

when all turn against him. I believe She blushed. "Monsieur, it's but Chry People tell me bitter trong of you. These may be so. But yo look to offer than my brother, who mi be in your transfe with your temptations She and this so impulsively that I look : at her as if she was some saint out of beaven, and all my bitterness went awa like a pain under the healing hand, "Maderonisette Moncrieff,"

now bundly, "I deserve no pity of your but I thank you for it, and it may be that some day I may deserve it of you, heaver

"It helps," said this strange young lady like a nun, "those who help themselves. You are very beautiful, mademniselle, I said, not thinking

She stamped her foot impatiently. "My mother was a French woman, but I like not at all the manner of you French

men Silast" she called to the groon lyanced, remembering my manners "May I have the privilege of helping you to the saddle?"

"Thank you, no, monsieur She pulled on her giove impatiently "I am so sorry I spoke to you, monsieur

"And I am glad," I cried. She then looked at me long and earnestly, "It is not you, monsieur; 'tis your plight, that made me speak to you against every

rule of etiquette. You are young-"Older than I appear," I said smiling. "twenty-three, I chance to know well, for this is my birthday."

"Theu." she said, taking her seat from a little mound, and bringing the careening horse to quiet with a touch, "let not another year pass, without the Sieur de la Renne being able to restore his name.

"Mademoiselle." said I, touched by this Interest of the mere stranger, "your word leaves me brave."

Oh!" she cried, "forgive a silly girl who has acted as no other would." "No." said I, snatching her hand and

raising it to my lips, "for no woman in the world can be like you. I swear. She had snatched her hand as if angrity and yet had watched me to the end, the closed lids hiding her eyes; and now suddealy she whipped up her borse and was lost in the path's turn.

Musing, I took up my interrupted way Presently the wood opened and I came by a broad path into a village street. A little crowd was gathered watching a juggler, who scattered his tricks with Parisian

jargon. Seeing me, this rascal pointed. "Ab, the captain, the Stear de la Renne." he said, tending; "one of our nobility who has juggled, "tis said, with honor." Most of the canaille looked at him, a wed at his effrontery; but a derisive titter ran

through the throag. "Ah, the Sieur de la Renne," said the fellow again, encouraged by this round of tarrly applause; "the last of a great name, who owes millions, who has scattered his own and his tenantry's substance; who as been dismissed the regiment Gatenols.

I had an impulse to teach him man-ners; but, remembering, I held my head looking neither to right nor to left. Yet my cheeks tingled with wretched my name was a byword I walked on, hurriedly, to the inn where I had left two horses De Vitry

had ient. My own long since were all sold. Baptiste Beraud, who had grown ip with me, was walting. I had stabled there in coming from aris, out of shame at the remarks sure to be made in the palace stables at the sight of De Vitry's horses. I knew that granns' gossip reaches masters; and even in my condition, when it was known I did not own the cost on my back I did ed wish it remarked that I borrowed

rom him with whom I once had quarreled fiercely. I still disliked De Vitry as but he had done me many a favor as a have said; in fact, his favor had be

lay, I have small chance 'And I say that it's easy for the strong

"You are dismissed from the army?"
"In disgrace," said I, stolidly.

On, disgracet's De Vitry said, with a

neer, "it means simply that you have acted

like a foot, with no wit, no resource at all

for it was a request from the Marquis de

Lafavette to Dr. Franklin, asking him

to recommend to Congress, a young gentle-

ment Gatenois, but dismissed that service

'De in Renne, the wish to secure your

ervice," he said with the frankness of

"Pooh, man! what honor have you left

before the world? You must take the

purned don't you see, you must dare

And should you succeed, money can buy

"Well, perhaps," said i; "but I can't

it, how shall we know you may not be-

You must risk that, monsieur," I said

"Oh, I beg your pardon," he began

"I see but this That I am to take serv

ce in America; that I am to have time

on my debts. But what of all that? There is more?"

"You are to take service with me."

You are to assist in an enterprise that

What has done most to keep up the

'I don't know; yes, Washington's gen

"I dare say," said I contemptuously.

"There is Gen. Charles Lee, who is not

Arnold, has offered Monsieur de Luzerne his majesty's minister at Philadelphia,

to use his influence for the French interests

burdensome as yours. The Count de Vergennes has rejected that proposal; but

it has come to the attention of certain

this negotiation, this Gen. Arnold has ap

proached the English, and that they have

bought him. Now these individuals have

Gen. Arnold in their power. They agree

not to reveal his treachery on the condition

ceives from the British authorities-in the

But, monsieur, the Americans are our

"This is a financial proposition, Capt.

de la Renne. What if they may be? We merely remain quiet. Should the

affair fail, we still have Gen. Arnold in

of his paying to them half of what he re

"Gen. Gates-many others."

'Well? What of it, monsieur?'

on may imagine, astounded

this interest in mie"

"A desperate chance."

"I care not how desperate."

prite agree. What is the chance? I must have your decision first."

"I can't give it, till I know.

For what "...

"You agree?"

"What kind?"

will pay considerably."

American rebellion?"

eralship.

"Yes.

"Is it consistent"

t before my eyes. I read it with wo

he readily devised my purpose in bringing

"Go down to the kitchen, my good

"As if anyone could be," said I, where

the contrary, I ask you to allow me to call the account settled."

For a whipped dog will fawn on the

ven then shake off a prejudice against

Inheriting estates heavily encombered,

shrewdness, had become connected with

the revenues, and had accumulated mil-

lions; till at that time be was said to be as

rich as the great Cardinal Mazarin-a mil-

More than that, he was connected with many private schemes which had brought

bim, it was said, excellent returns, and he

was then identified with a land speculation

in Louisiana. Needy adventurers flocked

to him with all possible enterprises; if

some he encouraged and others he turned

away, he always had about a small army

knew him at heartfalse, and Datteredhim.

And as I say, when I began the downward

must pay for his favor.

"I have no money.

'Ban! What of that?"

priest, Maurice de Talleyrand.

areer he stood by me, but! was sure I

I moved uneasily under his little, scru-inszing, black eyes. I never could endure

De Vitry's eyes, or those of that unfrocked

"Why don't you, Michel, seek service with

I have asked Dr. Franklin, and naturally

was refused. He doubtless knows my eputation; and after her majesty's anger

he had brought to Paris a strange busin

his arm in mine.

upon he burst into laughter.

ssure you, I appreciate it."

im, which I know, many shared

lionaire through a king's bounty.



"What honor have you left before the world?"

"The reckening." I cried now flerecly, to redicule the weak, to say what might, and paied lest I did not have the sum, and what might not be." nd paled lest I did not have the sum; out luckily I had, with a sou to spare; but, unluckily, nothing to give to the boy who was belong Raptiste with the

"bave him a franc for me," I cried, bent on keeping up this hollow appearance So, with bravado, I whipped up to Paris; but a son in my pocket; owing my last faithful servant a franc in addition to the six mentes' wage-in debt, all told, to trades folk and gentlemen, some 90,000 francs; with not even a good name; with a positive threat of the Bastile. I did not give those fail in their recognition, but looked straight rward, resolved, at least, to have the an of disdain. Once a hymn struck my carfrom an open church door, and it was like Mile. Moncrieff's words. I felt a lump in

Baptiste," said I, weakly, 'Yes, my lord "

We must part, Baptiste, I no longer can keep you from your wage. Yes-I must owe

You owe me naught," he said, stortly, friends, even my servants. I have naugh-

eft. Whatdo they say—the servants."
"Naught to me. One began, but I br de be rascal's head. "

'Yet you must go." "Yes, my lord. And where?"

To Auvergne. "And you, too --?"

ears out best or the Seine. Then I shook Renne? Albeit the last. Could I not main

"No. Baptiste," I continued, "I go into ortune, for a name

'And will not my lord's fortune be Bapiste Beraud's". Do you ask me to leav on, my lord, whose uncestors have served my lord's ancestors; No. I'll follow you, nd let the wage stay."

I leaned over my (I have forgot, Jean de Vitry's) borse's head and pressed his hand.
"But Sussime in Auvergne?" I asked at est, howing back, for he had fallen to his

place. She can wait. Let me see the world There are girls and girls, and but one Sieur

Thank God, but one!" I muttered, as we cantered along in the twilight to my lodging. A troop of the king's guard swept by did not notice. Hope reached swift to my heart. Yet when I came to my lodging door the gloom was over me. The landlord stood there threateningly, but I pushed past in

"Out of my way, fellow, your account will be settled "

I slammed the door in his malicious face. The candle flickered, showing on the seal's handle the three lions of the Sieurs de la Renne, and the motto "Non vis. sed virtus" I laughed bitterly. I had proven I had no strength. Had I cither, a spark of valor? buried my face in my hands on the table. I do not know how long I remained thus But presently I perceived I was hungry. I taised my head, looking about disconso-lately. I suppose I had been then a study for despair. Yet I think it was not poverty, not hunger alone, so much as the sense of my position. At the moment Baptiste came clattering up the stairs; he always has retained some of the clumsiness of the country servant.

"I have returned from the Count d "So I perceive," I said fronically

"The count craves my lord's presence at What did he wish of me?

"Come, Baptiste," I cried, having a ind that he, too, should be fed from De Vitry's kitchen.

And De Vitry himself met us at the door,

"But how am I to act in this?" said, still coldly enough.
"These persons undertake a more serias if he would anticipate the lacker; and ous enterprise; nothing less than the ab-

event of his success.'

allies," I cried aghast.

(To Be Continued.) "I am delighted to see you," he began "My dear Michel," he said, "you must not be downcast. I am not about to de-TOW the Modern Woman How the Modern Woman Dedicates the Bathroom mand the 10,000 francs post-haste. To

British for his delivery.

"I will pay all I owe. But, really, De Vitry, it is good of you to say so much; I ********** Few, probably, realize in what a segree the bathroom is a fin de siecle loxury. hand that pats, though secretly holding it hateful; and I confess that I could not Less than twenty-five years ago it was found only in the homes of the favored few, but now no house of the smallest pre-In 1780, a man of seventy-five, the Count de Vitry seemed strong, rich, successful. tentions is without one.

to Health and Beauty.

The bathrooms of the wealthy today rival those of the Romans in the period when perfumed baths were taken two and three times a day. The room is large and airy and is flooded with sunshine. The walts and ceiling are tiled in pure white or in deift, white and bibe. The bathtub is of marble sunk deep in the floor. Pure sliver gleams in towel rack and soap dish. and as the pure, clear water flows from the nickle shower one is transported to fairyland, where, in a cavern of sparkling gems, the drip, drip, drip of some ice old spring is heard.

It is only in the palaces of the rich, how ever, that the bathroom suggests anything poetic. The bathroom of the great midd classes displays rather a practical under standing of the laws of health, and a d sire to comply with them.

The most desirable buttersom has a wir facing the moth or the west, dding its occupant to take a sun as well as a water bath. There should also be some a fash taken in a chilly room is api to do more harm time good. If the room is not connected with the furnace, get for it a small gas stove, and light it about fifteen minutes before the bath is to be There should be nothing about the batheoem which can harbor any herking germs of disease. Everything must be of such a mature that it can readily tecleaned with soap and water. For the walls and ceiling tilling is certainly preferable, but is it is very expensive, the modest house wife finds an excellent autouture in tiled paper, which comes in the same colors and designs. When tiled paper is used for the walls, the ceiling should be painted, not kalsomined pure write. The woodwork should also receive a few coats use is of porcelain or enamel. Unfor tunately many houses which have been statisting for some years have cabinet talks They are usually of hard wood, and if variashed and given a high polish from time to time, may be kept in perfect hy gione condition. Carpets to longer cover the floors. Luxurious bathers demand inhaid mosaic patterns, also in the delft plors, while ordinary mortals are contenwith lindeam, which, if not a delight to the eye, may be kept perfectly clean tand. In many it is of marble; built is

of painted from, in white, to harmon with the walls and coding The newest towel-rocks are of nickel instead of wood, as formerly one sta tionary rod, to be fastened to the wall may be purchased for a dollar: \$3 will secure a rack with three movable rods, wh very pretty towel shelf can be had for

he room, with the polished pipes exposes

eneath. If not, it is best to supply or

The liest scap-dish is one that hangs or the edge of a tub and is made of twisted about 75 cents and is very convenient, especially with children, who are upt to place the soap where it will spull the woodwork. An exceedingly don't utantine sometishi of plated silver, with five promes to hold the soap up and keep it dry; price \$3. Solid silver dishes may also be purchased. but as the cheapest are \$25 they are not likely to become very popular.

Nowadays a shower is considered aboultely nevessary, although name both some bare been built without them. One will give you hope. Do you see this?". He took a paper from his desk, daugling se fascet may be purchased for \$1.50 If a double spray is desired, an additiona sential adjunct to the bathtub is a small man of ancient family, Michel, Sienr de la Benne, till lately captain in the regiest of such shape that it can be fastene the end of the tub. This does away s quite a misance.

for youthful indiscretions. I read this The modern bother, however, is not content with a bathroom, pure and simple "More than that, I assume half the pay ment of your debts. For the other, I shall To be entirely satisfactory, it must be supan endiess variety of rogs. I asked bewildered, "why rushes and mittens.

astitution. It is made of heavy Turk-



Exactly. Yet there is dissatisfaction with him; jealousy among certain offish toweling, and each member of the cers, who would wish to see him superfamily is provided with one, and after use it is washed just as any towel would be. Very fastidious persons, who object not only to putting the foot or linoleum used by others, but to coming into contact with the bathtub as well. line the entire tub with a coarse linen sheet before filling it with water A "An American officer, Gen. Benedict milar sheet is placed beside the tub, and, her bath over, my lady steps into it. This sheet is so large that the corners can be used for drying purposes. if the king will pay his debts, which are as

Sponges are no longer used for bathing The searchlight of modern science has discovered that germs cling to them, and that no amount of care will keep them per feetly clean. In their place, we have brushes and mittens

Inbuying a brush, careful attention should be given to the condition of one's flesh It is said that a woman is able to bear a much harsher brush than a man, whose muscular flesh offers a greater resistance In the same way, the requirements of dif-

Round brushes, while offered in great quantities at the stores, are not nearly o serviceable as the long, narrow kind. The latter have long handles, curve in and out, and enable a person to give any part of the body a thorough brushing. If one objects to such vigorous treatment, a pair

of mittens may be used. The mitten made of loopha is very like sponge when wet, and is really ex-

duction of Gen. Washington. Having abducted Gen. Washington, they will hold and linen braid, the latter knit on coarse needles. An additional advantage is that they can be made at home.

The so-called "friction glove" also en-ters largely into the modern bath. It is of root fiber, knitted horsehair, horse hair made into a brush with the back of the mitten of stockinet, and also of macra those who desire mild treatment.

the "friction" glove. Special brushes for the face are pre-pared of camel's hair and goat's hair, the

latter the better by far. These are the means taken by modern women to preserve their health and youth. Much advice regarding beauty is given, and much wisely followed. Yet the eynote of the situation is the bathroom, and each day sees it more clearly guarded as a shrine of Hygela.

The big, bad man in our mining camp on Roaring River was named Sam Robinson, and the big, bad man of the campbelow was named Jim Stebbins Each was jealous of the prestige of the other, and about once

used dry, to promote proper circulation, and may be employed at any time, whether a bath has been taken or not. It is made me cord. The knitted gloves are best for

For such, also, are towels knit of brain or very coarse cotton on large needles. answering equally well the requirements of

TWO BIG, BAD MEN

of a mere girl like Lena Stearns.

Fifteen years ago it was quite another

story. At that time Dumpny's Gien was in the midst of its been as a prospective

since, broken in fortune and in spirit.

Each Turned Tall and Ran.

a week a giallenge was issued, and sam in its dark, dirty windows was broken

went down to see Jim, or Jim came up to squirrels sturried over the sagging ver in see Sam. The program and the result were das: the warping shingles blew down from

dways the same If Jim came up to our the roof in every storm, the caves were a

camp he had a couple of gons and a suife hive for wasps and hornets. The streets on display, and he would softly inquire of that had been so hopefully laid out led

the first man he met

op Watkins?

matter of hizness

together he would inquire:

Be this the gentlem

"Stranger, kin I allow that this ar"

Thanks. Kin I further allow that you hev

"I dew Will you have the condescend-

in' kondness to inform him that a gentle-man wishes to see him on a matter of

historia structure bignoca? Be sure to say

that it's a gentleman, and that it is a

his two guns and his bowie knife, and

"On bizness, sah. I hav com as a gen-

"He at'. Yes, sah, he was brung up a gentleman, and he can't be nuthin' else.

Do I bey the honor of speakin' to Mr. James Stebbins,"

"You dow. I hey no keerds with me

I hope ye won't take offense when I say

tieman, sah, a perfeck gentleman address Samuel Robinson, esq. ***

"And ar" he a gentleman

am would be notified and he would get

alk forth to meet Jim As they came

an who wanted to

Exactly Want to see bind"

nowhere. Park avenue started well, but soon lostified among brambles and bushes,

rotting post, held by one maty noil.

The store, however, was still kept up,

for there was a little country trade. Mrs. Stearns lived with her daughter in the upper

tion agent at Duninky's, where she sold

half a dozentickets a week, flagged a train

when there was a passenger, and bearded

stocked stores at the Ridge, and did a sus

business seemed to require. The wires most have felt a queer thrill, as some of

those messages pulsed through them-though the words were as trivial and as

men. The train which conveyed it, how

secous amount of trading at the Gien

is in any other rastic courtship.

story, and managed to sell or parter a

CELESTIAL TELEGRAPHY

By LAWRENCE BOONE.

"0-0-0-Help" Then a confusion There was a little old-fashioned safe in of clicks, and again the instrument to cry out: "0-0-Save-L-" the depot at Dumphy's Glen, but everybody knew that it never contained any-He sprang to the key and tried to tele thing of special value. It served well

enough to hold the books and papers of the office and a little loose change. There was wrong-horribly wrong-at bumphy's Glen. It would not do to waste time. was practically no business done at Dum phy's. If it had been otherwise the station would never have been left in charge

His bicycle was leaning against the sunding; he had brought it out that day

ummer resort, and when Lena's father sought the barren little plot of gravel and bare granite upon which he had creefed his store he had paid for it at the rate of \$40 a front foot, and had trooble in if the moon had emerged from behind a cloud, But there was no moon, he knew that the moon would not rise until morn-The fag dismantied "Sanatorium" on the hill was utterly abandoned. Half the glass

The callway circled the foot of the bill, but the road ran straight over the simunit. By strengous effort he had already reached the crest, and the hard driven wheel leaped forward with a fresh burst of speed as it

Foldenty the air scemed full of rosy light, as if tinged with the glow of dawn. Though we were now running at a breakneck pace, he glassed spward. The sky was affame with the flicketing pennants of the arrora borealis. Near the horizon lay a bank of dusky haze, through which the stars gleamed faintly. Above it waverest a pale phosphorescent curtain, which shivered as if which roddy streamers and up to the very zenith, and flickered and waned and brightened. It was a magnificent haplay: but as the descent was becoming steeper every moment, he was obliged to keep his eyes fixed on the road.

He was now rushing down the rough

track with a violence that almost defied centrol. The overstrained tubing gave under his weight to the very limit of its tated like a frightened horse, and shied wildly amid the cuts and stones that he could not avoid. At a sharp turn of the aind tire slipping on the by edge, and barely escaped planging down the endow k-ment, then the depot windows flashed into

After that the beyele must have chosen tsown course, for Sturgm was not consens to and against the yellow lamp-light ne saw the dark outline of a man trawling

tien his wheel came to a stop in the deep sand of the station gold. He dropped from the saddle, pulcit a 44-caliner reelver from his hip pocket, and spraing to The depot consisted of a single room

seto herface.

You unlock that safe, right quick, and o nonscise," he was saving I won't, I can't," cried Lena

the dingy counter cotton thread nails molecuses and patent medicine enough to The other intruder, a seedy in the follow oward the girl.

"Ye night as well save trouble," he mid. "We know what's here, an' we're goth' to have it. This is her, understand. We shan't hart ye, if ye behave."

There ain't goin' to be pobody to help," the fellow continued. "The road Lens was not only bright and efficient, but decidedly pretty. This fact had been discovered by John Sturgin, the station stidge is down - swep away by the freshet sgent at Pine Ridge, ten miles above, it was a source of regret to him that he was here yet awhite. Yer ma's too fur off, an' she ain't no good answay. We got to not the only discoverer. As it was, he perversely turned his back on the wellandy. Se lively now. We kin be rough

dso did more telegraphing at times than tey from her apron pocket. The big miffian beside her snatened at it, lower-ng riss of a cat she flung the little piece of teel through the open door of the stove, remote from the sentiments they voiced there it slipped down among the glowing coals. The fellow caught up the poker and plunged it into the residuot mass, but Though searcely any money ever found odgment at Dumphy's Glen, a good deal he key had disappeared. With a cry of passed through it. About twelve miles below were the great sawmills at Sabine Falls, and every week a heavy cash-box was his back was turned she had darted scross he room and jerked open a drawer. expressed thither from the city to pay the "Throw up your hands, you scounded "

The command came in a hoarse rour from the open window. The desegrado ever, scarcely ever slopped at the little lag station; but there was one notable ex It was about the middle of March, and heavy rains had stripped the hills of their white winter cloaks. "They're just like folks who lay off their wraps too soon, thought Lenn, drawing her fleecy 'fasci more closely about her neck and hoolders-for the sky had cleared, and the air was growing frosty, "They look

as if they were catching their death of She was standing on the platform, watch ing the belated express as it rounded the curve. To her surprise, it slowed and came to a stop, though she had not flugged it. The door of the baggage car slid open and the agent jumped out, dragging the ow, don't git narvous with that popper

eash-box after him. Shall have to leave the here tonicat." he explained. "Rad wash-out at Tame rack Creek, three pales down, and w can't get through to Sabine possibly orders are to run back at once, wired to the Mills to send men roun the road, and they'll be here soon. e all right; nobody else will know the duff's here. Come, we'll put it in the safe

So Lena opened the safe while the agent, with the help of a brakeman, brought is he box. It was a snug fit, though sic pulled out all the books to make room for Then the men boarded the train which slowly backed up the line until it

was out of sight. The girl re-entered the depot, locked the door, threw a fresh supply of coal on the fire, and waited alone for the messengers from the mills. An hour passed, and another and another; at last the hand of the clock stood at 11, and still they had not

John Sturgin was also sitting alone in he licket office at Pine Ridge. Thoughts of Lena were uppermost in his mind-a hing not unprecedented-but tenight his head was full of fancies. He knew about he each box, for he had spoken with the express agent as the train backed through. "I'm afraid the little girl was worried about that money," he mused. "She isn't used to that sort of thing. But it can't have been in her hands more than half an

The telegraph at his clow was clicking in an uneasy, irregular fashion, but he had scarcely noticed it. All at once the signal sounded loudly. This was followed by an unintelligible rattle; even his practice! ear could make nothing of it. Then, after a moment's silence, came words-broken and fluttering-but to his quick apprehen- And sion they sounded like an articulate cry. right

graph a question; but he could get no response. The wires seemed badly out of order. He was much alarmed. Something

He ran out of the depot. "Look after blogs, Mac." be called to the loggage

for the first time since winter set in With a quick push and a leap he wasin the saddle, bounding along the dim. from road. Dim-yet for more starlight the night seemed wonderfully humanus. But the light was fitful, there were moments when all seemed buried in darkness. Then the

felt the downward slope.

nethrough the opening; another followed The last figure had scarcely disappeared

The safe and the telegraphic opporates were in the further side. In the maddie of the Hoor stood Lenn, definat, with its pretentious name hong askew from its lenebed hands and glowing cheeks, noking straight down the black muzzle of a istol that a linge despendo was holding

with thin lips and a batchet face, was by he safe examining the lock. He turned Lena, who was now eighteen, had to do something, of course, and as she was remistakably a bright girl and had mastered bookkeeping and telegraphy she easily obtained the univerportant position of sta

The girl glanced at him with augry cou-Her blood was builting.

With a sudden motion Lena milled the

wheeled, saw a fierce, livid face glar-ing in from the outer gloom, saw also leveled weapon, and suspected more enind. He dropped his pestol and obeyed. having his left hand on the sill, John one bound. There is no record-breaker like love and anger in things athletic. Meanwhile the lesser villain was strugvindow; but when he glanced over his shoulder and caught the glint of another stood by the open dinwer, he desisted, "Give it up," he said cooly "Ye got se sure, little girl; though how them

of yourn. I'll rest easy, an' I ain't got no gon anyway." Give me your pistol, Lena," said citement. "Now, you two brutes stand here, face to the wall, houds up. Lena, please send a message through the Grand port for a train and posse"

She sent the message as she was hidhand and the color from her cheek. She felt faint; she threw open the door and gazed up the track. The night had grown very dark, though a filmy veil of auroral light still flitted now and then across the starry background.

At length the rumble of an engine was eard, a welcome sound to Sturgin, whose irms were so pulsied with weariness and servous tension that he could hardly hold the pistols. It was just as well that his prisoners were so placed that they couldn't see him. Soon, however, they were in the sands of the deputy sheriff, and the strain WAS OVER.

Storgin sat holding both Lena's hands in his. "I can't understand it," he said. How did it happen, dear, that you telegraphed me for help so long before these

villains reached the depot? "I telegraph!" she cried. "Why, I didn't; I couldn't. I hadn't the smallest chance until after you came, just in the nick of time. and saved me, John."

"Acht" exclaimed burly Mac, who was standing by. "It'll be them northern lights done it likely. Ye know what a fieldle-fadelle they'll make 'long o' the wires, an' set all the soun era clackin'. An' I'm thinkin Storgin, somebody's whim-whoms done the

"It was a message straight from heav-en," marmured Lena. And doubtless both she and Mac were

rest.



instead of a towel

ferent women vary.

dulge in the hope that ye won't git ye back up when I remark that yer a first class duffer!" longs to a gentleman. Mr. Robinson, no true gentleman will wear a gun on

his hip for ornyment, nor pick his teeth with a bowie knife. Kin I allow that you know the use of them ere deadly weepins?" "Ye kin, Mr. Stebbins-ye kin. Would ye prefer to be shot or sliced? busy day, but ye shall hev it as ye wish. "Thanks That's powerful kind o' ye can't express my pleasure at meeting

shoctin' at fust, and if that don't work, ye might slice away with the knife. By the way, Mr. Robinson, hev' ye selected the spot whar ye want yer carcass to repose. No. Mr. Stebbins, I hevn't. Do you want to be plainted on a bill or down in a boiler? Don't be afeared to put me to a leetle

a real gentleman out yere. Ye might try

ready to de favors fur another." That was the way they would blow around for an hour or so, each having a gun ready to shoot, but no shooting ever taking place. But one day their guns went off by accident, and each ran for a mile in opposite directions.

trouble. One gentleman always stands

"Boys," explained our big, bad man, "I'm ready to own up, and I reckon it's the with Jim. We both run. We couldn't help it. We ar' two gentlemen, and no gentleman ever stops to be shot!"